

[2 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) the stipulated time, if any, by when the conversion of railway line from metre gauge to broad gauge from Rangiya to Murkhongselek is likely to be started; and

(c) the stipulated time, if any, by when the extension of double line would be completed from New Bongaigaon to Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Electrification of Indian Railway network is generally done after considering the operational and financial viability of the sections being proposed for electrification and also taking into account the traffic density in terms of Gross Million Tones being carried in the section. In this regard, sections wherein there is a heavy flow of freight traffic, are also the sections having higher Gross Million Tonnes. Accordingly these high-density corridors have got preference in electrification. Kathiar-Guwahati section of Northeast Frontier Railway which is a part of Lucknow-Barabanki-Gorakhpur-Barauni-Kathiar-Guwahati high density route, has been identified as one of the such routes to be taken up for electrification during the 11th Five Year Plan.

(b) The work of gauge conversion of Rangiya-Murkongselek Metre Gauge line to Broad Gauge has already been taken up. The detailed survey on Rangiya-Rangapara North has been completed and detailed estimate sanctioned.

(c) The work of doubling between New Bongaigaon-Guwahati is not sanctioned.

Rail coach factory in NER

562. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up rail coach factory in NER;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) and (d) Proposal for setting up a new production unit is based on projections of sustained demand; and the location are decided based on requirements of the project.

Rail line from Rupai to Mahadevpur in Arunachal Pradesh

563. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for construction of railway line from Rupai in Tinsukia district of Assam to Mahadevpur-Namsai-Chowkham-Wakro-Parasuramkund in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the new railway line/lines being undertaken/proposed to be undertaken in the landlocked State of Arunachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A request has been received from State Government of Arunachal Pradesh for new line from Rupai to Parasuramkund in Arunachal Pradesh. The survey has been included in Budget 2007-08.

(c) The work of Harmuti-Itanagar new line has been taken up.